Auburn Theo. Sem.y
1st Dec. 1856

Dear Brethren.

The kind letter of your Secretary, written in your name & behalf, under date of Oct. 25. was duly received and its contents communicated to the members of the Soc. of Inquiry in this institution. Its assurances of Christian confidence and sympathy are most heartily reciprocated and our prayers are ever unto God for you that you may not only be saved but become able ministers of the New Testament. good soldiers of our Lord Jesus Christ — able to teach others also that knowledge which will make them wise unto eternal life. Alike in present labors - looking forward to the same glorious calling - expecting to assume like responsibilities - to suffer like

trials and to be crowned at last by a
Common Saviour's hand, we should
most certainly be kindred in heart and
take advantage of every means to encourage
each other - to provoke one another to love &
to good works.

We rejoice to hear of the continued prosperity of Princeton Seminary and that under God it is to be, as heretofore, an efficient and prominent means of building up the Redeemer's Kingdom in the earth. What good it has already done we cannot estimate. The bones of her sons are buried in almost every land - there are not wanting witnesses to testify of their faithful labors and holy zeal. May God in his love bestow upon it still greater blessings and make you, dear Brethren, and those from whom you daily receive instructions, just such men, in the temper of your minds and hearts as the churches and this dying world demand. Such is our earnest prayer.

Through the good Providence of our

Heavenly Father this Seminary is again assuming a position of influence and usefulness. The clouds wh. for a year or two hung over it have been dispelled, and the future is full of promise. Three years ago its doors were closed - its teachers, for good reasons no doubt, had abandoned their post; its few students scattered to Andover, Union & Princeton. Only one year has elapsed since its doors were reopened and up to the present term our numbers were small. In consequence of this, but little was accomplished last year. The Soc. of Inq. I think was the only one of previously existing organizations wh. was revived. It is hoped more will be done the present year. Our meetings are held monthly and the interest manifested is of the most gratifying character. This Sem'y has heretofore contributed largely, in comparison with others, to meet the growing demands of the great Miss'y Enterprise, and let us hope that its future will evince more of the Missionary Spirit among its members than the past.

Probably the general tone of piety in our Seminary is not lower than Elsewhere, but Oh, how fearfully far is it below that standard wh. is presented us in God's Holy word & wh. was exemplified in the life and labors of the great Preacher Paul. It is feared that few of us are in the full enjoyment of that liberty wherewith Christ maketh his people free - and without wh. we can have to be guiltless. We are in bondage to the world - and in want of the Spirit of adoption whereby we cry, Abba, Father." We think more of our heads than our hearts - more of gratifying the tastes of men than of saving their souls - We hope, dear brethren you are better than we are in this respect - Let us unitedly pray that "God will make us Examples to the church & to the world," in word in Conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity - Hoping to hear again from you, we are Your Brethren in Christ In behalf of Soc.

T. B. Waldson
Sec. & Treas.